



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - November 20, 2003

- ***In the West***, cold, dry weather is returning to ***Northwestern*** winter wheat areas, following recent, highly beneficial rainfall. Meanwhile, snow showers linger across the ***northern Rockies***, accompanied by a push of colder air. Mild, dry weather prevails elsewhere in the ***West***.
- ***On the Plains***, light snow is developing in advance of an Arctic outbreak across ***Montana***, where any snow cover in coming days will be advantageous in protecting the poorly established winter wheat crop against bitterly cold conditions. Elsewhere, warm, dry, breezy conditions are promoting the ***southern High Plains'*** cotton, peanut, and sorghum harvests, but leaving little moisture for winter wheat development.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, mild, dry weather is returning to areas from the ***Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys to the lower Great Lakes region***, promoting winter wheat growth and final corn harvesting.
- ***In the South***, a return to warm, dry weather favors the growth of winter grains and cool-season pastures, following recent rainfall. However, lingering wetness in the ***southern Atlantic region*** continues to slow cotton and soybean harvesting.

Outlook: Moderate to heavy rain will linger in ***New England***, while dry weather and above-normal temperatures will prevail across the remainder of the ***East***. Dry, unseasonably warm weather will also cover the ***Ohio Valley, Southeast, and southern Plains***. However, sharply colder air will spread southward across the ***northern Rockies and northern Plains***. Light snow will accompany the cold weather, especially on the ***northern High Plains***. Early next week, heavier snow is possible from the ***central Plains northeastward into the upper Great Lakes region***, while showers and thunderstorms will erupt in the ***Mississippi Valley*** and spread eastward. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 25-29 calls for above-normal precipitation in the ***West*** and from the ***eastern Plains to the Appalachians***. Drier-than-normal conditions will be limited to ***southern Florida***. Above-normal temperatures are forecast across the ***eastern half of the U.S.***, while colder-than-normal weather is expected from the ***Rockies westward***.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>